

Mental Health Transformation Project

Partnerships for Recovery and Resiliency



TRANSFORMATION NEWS

APRIL 20, 2006

ALL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

The members of all seven Subcommittees met April 7 to examine the public testimony received through the Transformation process and prioritize outcomes. During February and March, more than 40 public events were held, collecting input from consumers, stakeholders and professionals with an interest in Transformation. In addition, the Project received hundreds of responses to the [four questions](#) from individuals, and organizations.

Sterling and Associates, an Olympia based firm, facilitated the discussion. The data was synthesized by a team of researchers from the University of Washington so subcommittee members could identify common themes in the massive amount of information collected. At days end, a list of outcome priorities emerged for submittal to the Transformation Work Group (TWG).

But the day wasn't all work! Each member of the seven Subcommittees was honored for their work with a special award from Governor Christine Gregoire. The award read in part: "for your statewide service to Mental Health Transformation". Each award was signed by the Governor.



The Criminal Justice Subcommittee receives a Governor's Award for their service to Transformation. Each of the seven subcommittees received the award.

TWG MEETS ON APRIL 21 IN YAKIMA

The Transformation Work Group (TWG) will hold its third meeting in Yakima at the Clarion Convention Center on April 21. The meeting is open to the public, but will be a work session; there will be no public input opportunity. The TWG will be presented the findings from the Subcommittee work, then discuss and approve the outcomes the Transformation Project needs to achieve. The TWG will have the Subcommittee [Outcomes Report](#) in advance and be prepared to forward their prioritized outcomes to [Task Groups](#) being convened in May. Next, Task Groups will identify strategies that move the mental health services systems towards the outcomes identified during the public process.

The TWG is the grant-required oversight to Transformation in our state. The 32-member committee consists of all the state agencies involved in the public mental health service system. In addition, consumers and stakeholders are represented, along with local government, providers and Tribes. The TWG has been meeting since December, 2005. Meeting minutes can be found on the Mental Health Transformation Project web site: <http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/mentalhealth/mhtsig.shtml>.



Joyce Layne-Jordan joined the staff of the Mental Health Transformation Team as a Program Manager on February 22, 2006. Joyce brings a total of 32 years of experience in various positions including counselor in a women's prison, institutional parole officer, trainer, certification specialist, program specialist, regional administrator for the Washington State Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, director of a crisis unit, pre-college coordinator, teacher, program contract monitor and interstate compact specialist. Joyce has a wealth of experience in social services with both local and state government. She has worked in six states and her most recent position was with the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice Community Programs.

Joyce has always been an active community worker wherever she has lived. Her volunteer work includes mentoring, tutoring, developing youth programs, involvement in church activities and generally serving her neighborhood in any capacity requested of her. She is a graduate of Norfolk State University with a degree in Social Work and a graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University with a master's in Rehabilitation Counseling. Joyce is committed to contributing as a team member to help make the Office of the Governor Mental Health Transformation Project a total success. We are happy to have her as a member of our team.

UNIVERSITY SUMMARIZES PUBLIC INPUT

During the course of the Mental Health Transformation project, hundreds of individuals have presented their vision of what is and is not working in Washington for those with mental health challenges, and what their vision of a transformed mental health system would look like. From March 21st to April 3rd, a team of researchers affiliated with the UW Division of Public Behavioral Health and Justice Policy conducted a qualitative analysis of public testimony received on mental health transformation in Washington. The team analyzed transcripts from 32 subcommittee meetings and listening sessions held across the state in February and March – over 5000 pages of testimony! – as well as hundreds of emails, faxes, handwritten notes, and responses to the MHT web survey posted on its website.

To do this, the researchers first broke down all the testimony into unique statements. Next, categories were created and all statements sorted by these categories. Finally, small categories were sorted into primary categories. The result of this monumental effort was nine reports, including one for each of the seven MHT subcommittees (e.g., Children, Youth and Families, Homelessness) that presented 4,732 unique statements from all the testimony received, sorted into categories of feedback received. To see the reports generated from this qualitative analysis of public testimony received by the MHT team, go to the website (<http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/mentalhealth/mhtsig.shtml#reports>)

TRIBAL FORUMS TO ANSWER SURVEY QUESTIONS

The four questions posed to consumers and stakeholders will be asked to an audience of tribal members in two forums in May. The input received from these forums will be developed into a series of recommendations to the Comprehensive Mental Health Plan specific to Tribes. Delivery of mental health services through Tribal agencies differs from services delivered by state agencies. The American Indian Health Commission requested the separate opportunity to address the disparity of access and services to Native populations. Dates and locations for the forums will be announced soon. For more information, contact David Brenna brenndc@dshs.wa.gov.

Thank you for sharing our newsletter with others. Questions or comments?
Contact David Brenna, 360-902-8456 or brenndc@dshs.wa.gov. Visit our web site at <http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/mentalhealth/mhtsig.shtml> If you'd like to sign up for this newsletter to come to your email address, sign up for the MHTG-NEWS Listserv: <http://listserv.wa.gov/archives/mhtg-news.html>